

Establishment Must Try for Change Says Dawkins

The "local boy who made good" returned to his home town Wednesday night to tell its establishment to try harder to change the conditions of society.

Maj. Peter M. Dawkins, U. S. Army, was warmly applauded by the 300 Chamber members, local officials and their wives at the 35th annual dinner of the Greater Royal Oak Chamber of Commerce.

West Point straight, he chatted almost conversationally with an audience that included his family and former neighbors.

He joined in congratulations to those who received the Chamber's annual recognition awards for outstanding service to the community, as exemplifying the "extra measure" of service needed. Then, he said:

"It is slightly numbing to realize that there are probably hundreds of similar dinners across the nation tonight that somewhat self-congratulatory, yet the world and humanity remains in this turmoil and we have to ask ourselves some tough questions ..."

Among these he said, are "what are we doing to serve others to help youth, to re-

He quoted the late Robert Kennedy's words "I dream of things that never happened and ask myself, why not?" and said: "We've got to force ourselves to see better ways and to make some success in achieving them."

"All of us — let's face it, the Establishment — have a crisis of confidence. We don't know how, we don't know what ..."

"Our challenge is to remain constant ... (to the unchanging ideals of humanity) ... and to adapt to what should be done."

Maj. Dawkins responded to the local-boy-makes-good introduction of School Supt. Donald Currie by referring to himself as a "second rate son" of Royal Oak and then mentioned two others in his general age bracket who've achieved national prominence: Thomas Hayden, a founder of the Students for a Democratic Society of campus commotion fame, and an old schoolmate, Dan Ellsberg, who seems to have set up his own information service."

The former Rhodes scholar recalled the lament of Socrates in the 5th Century B.C., that youth is unruly, unmannerly and disrespectful and said "our humanity remains, it doesn't change at all."

He said the "radicals failed apparently because there aren't any simple solutions," and expressed his belief that overcoming the problems of society "lies with common folk who work hard and try hard to do the things that are important."

Maj. Dawkins was escorted to the head table by a Color Guard but immediately dispensed with formality in his speech by naming associates from his boyhood who were in the group.

Chamber President David L. Sackman who also is 33 gave him an appreciation plaque.

"You've called yourself the 'kid from out of town'," Sackman said. "You're our ambassador out of town."

FUTURE Army CHIEF of STAFF